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Letter from Brigadier General W. S. Featherston to Major R. W. Millsaps. 21 April 1865 30 September 1864 10 January 1865

Winfield Scott Featherston

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Memorandum or basis of agreement made this 18th day of April, A.D. 1865, near Durham's Station in the State of North Carolina, by and between General Joseph E. Johnston commanding the Confederate Army, and Major General William T. Sherman commanding the army of the United States in North Carolina, both present:

First: The contending armies, now in the field, to maintain the "statu quo", until notice is given by the commanding General of any one to its opponent, and reasonable time, say: Forty eight hours allowed.

Second: The Confederate Armies now in existence to be disbanded and conducted to their several State Capitals, there to deposit their arms and public property in the State Arsenal: and each officer and man to execute and file an agreement to cease from acts of war and to abide the action of both State and Federal authority. The number of arms and munitions of war to be reported to the Chief of Ordnance at Washington city, subject to the future action of the Congress of the United States, and in the meantime to be used solely to maintain peace and order within the borders of the States respectively

Third: The recognition by the Executive of the United States of the several State Governments, on their officers and Legislatures taking the oaths prescribed by the Constitution of the United States; and where conflicting State Govern-

(Signed) J. C. Johnston
General command'g C.
S. Army in N. C.

(Signed) W. T. Sherman
Maj. Genl Command'g
Army of the U. S. in N. C.

County of April
18th 1868-

-ments have resulted from the war, the legitimacy of all shall be submitted to the Supreme Court of the United States

Fourth: The reestablishment of all the Federal Courts in the several States, with powers as defined by the Constitution and laws of Congress

Fifth: The people and inhabitants of all the States to be guaranteed, so far as the Executive can, their political rights and franchises, as well as their rights of person and property as defined by the Constitution of the United States and of the States respectively

Sixth: The Executive authority of the Government of the United States not to disturb any of the people by reason of the late war, so long as they live in peace and quiet, abstain from acts of armed hostility, and obey the laws in existence at the place of their residence.

Seventh: In general terms, - the war to cease; - a general amnesty so far as the Executive of the United States can command, on condition of the disbandment of the Confederate Armies, the distribution of the arms, and the resumption of peaceful pursuits by the officers and men hitherto composing said armies

Not being fully empowered by our respective principals to fulfil these terms, we individually and officially pledge ourselves to promptly obtain the necessary authority and to carry out the above programme.